## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 081365 ORIGIN EB-08

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 COME-00 L-03 TRSE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 /032 R

DRAFTED BY EB/TRA/MA:REJOHE:PJP APPROVED BY EB/TRA/MA:CTAYLOR, JR. MARAD:FRAITER (INFO) NEA/PAB:DARCHARD

-----033072 301258Z /46

R 300133Z MAR 78 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY DACCA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EWWT, BG

SUBJECT: US-FLAG VESSEL ARTHUR MIDDLETON

- 1. WATERMAN STEAMSHIP CORPORATION'S REP IN D.C. BROUGHT TO THE DEPARTMENT'S ATTENTION (EB/TRA/MA) ON MARCH 29 THE RECENT DECISION BY THE DEPUTY GENERAL MANAGER OF THE BANGLADESH JUTE MILLS CORPORATION (BJMC) TO QUOTE ARBITRARILY (WATERMAN'S TERM) UNQUOTE PLACE JUTE CARGOES DESIGNATED BY US IMPORTERS FOR SHIPMENT ON WATERMAN'S VESSEL ARTHUR MIDDLETON BE LOADED INSTEAD ON THE BANGLADESH SHIPPING CORPORATION'S VESSEL BANGLAAR PRAGOTI AND THAT WATERMAN SURRENDER ALL RELATIVE SHIPPING DOCUMENTS.
- 2. AS NOTED BY WATERMAN REP, JUTE PRODUCTS ARE NORMALLY PURCHASED BY US BUYERS ON AN F.O.B. BASIS UNDER COMMERCIAL TERMS. BUYERS DESIGNATE THE VESSEL OF SHIPMENT UNDER THESE TERMS. THE BJMC HAS BEEN ADVISED THAT THE BUYERS OF THE JUTE CARGO, ORIGINALLY DESIGNATED FOR THE UNCLASSIFIED

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ARTHUR MIDDLETON, MAY ELECT NOT TO HONOR DOCUMENTS PRESENTED UNDER A LETTER OF CREDIT IF THE BJMC DOES NOT COMPLY WITH THE BUYER INSTRUCTIONS.

3. WATERMAN'S CONCERN IS WHETHER THE ACTION REGARDING THE ARTHUR MIDDLETON SHIPMENT IS AN ISOLATED INCIDENT RESULTING

FROM A COMMERCIAL PROBLEM OR IS A PRECURSOR TO FUTURE PROCEDURES WHICH WATERMAN CLAIMS ARE DESTRUCTIVE OF COMMERCIAL PRACTICES AND DISCRIMINATES AGAINST USFLAG CARRIERS.

- 4. WATERMAN NOTES THAT THEIR DACCA CONTACT, MR. D.A. LEES, HAS ALREADY APPROACHED THE EMBASSY ON THIS MATTER ON MARCH 27.
- 5. REQUEST EMBASSY'S COMMENTS ON WATERMAN'S CONCERN NOTED PARA 3. COOPER

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## Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 jan 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** 

Concepts: CARGO HANDLING, PORT CHARGES, ARTHUR MIDDLETON M/V

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 30 mar 1978 Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: n/a

Disposition Approved on Date: Disposition Case Number: n/a Disposition Comment: Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960 Disposition Event: Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE081365
Document Source: CDR

**Document Unique ID: 00** Drafter: REJOHE:PJP Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A

Errors: N/A **Expiration:** 

Film Number: D780138-0146

Format: TEL From: STATE

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path: ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t1978038/aaaaagcl.tel

Line Count: 73 Litigation Code IDs: Litigation Codes:

Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM

Message ID: f0d018c9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN EB

Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Reference: n/a Retention: 0

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Content Flags:

Review Date: 29 mar 2005 **Review Event:** Review Exemptions: n/a **Review Media Identifier:** 

Review Release Date: N/A Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

SAS ID: 3363654 Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: US-FLAG VESSEL ARTHUR MIDDLETON

TAGS: EWWT, BG, US

To: DACCA Type: TE

vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/f0d018c9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Review Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

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